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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/091,533 | 03/07/2002 | Shinichi Tanaka | D-1249 | 8370 |

7590 07/07/2003
KANESAKA AND TAKEUCHI
1423 Powhatan Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

EXAMINER

DRAPER, DEANN L

| | |
|----------|--------------|
| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|

3616

DATE MAILED: 07/07/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/091,533

Applicant(s)

TANAKA, SHINICHI

Examiner

Deanna L. Draper

Art Unit

3616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 March 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: In line 17 on page 7, enhancer cup “55” should be --66--. In lines 13 and 14 on page 9, “leaser” should be --laser--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 and 3 – 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Zeuner et al. (US 5,501,152). Zeuner discloses an air bag gas generator including a container having an outer shell (2 in Fig. 2), a gas initiator disposed in the container (6 in Fig. 2), an igniter disposed adjacent to the gas initiator for igniting the gas initiator (5 in Fig. 2), and a partition (1 in Fig. 2) disposed in the outer shell for dividing the container into a plurality of gas initiator chambers (6, 3 in Fig. 2) and having a positioning member (see attachment #1) for positioning the igniter inside the partition. The positioning member is a stepped portion extending from an end of the partition (see attachment #1). The igniter is a squib (5 in Fig. 2) in a squib holder (see attachment #1) for supporting the squib, and the squib holder is positioned by the positioning

member inside the partition. The partition also includes a collar for holding the squib holder between the positioning member and the collar (see attachment #1).

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hock et al. (US 5,613,705). Hock discloses an airbag inflator including a container having an outer shell (14, 16 in Fig. 1), a gas initiator disposed in the container (45 in Fig. 1), an igniter disposed adjacent to the gas initiator for igniting the gas initiator (56 in Fig. 1), and a cylindrical partition (24 in Fig. 1) disposed in the outer shell for dividing the container into a plurality of gas initiator chambers (45, 34 in Fig. 1) and having a positioning member (see attachment #2) for positioning the igniter inside the partition. The positioning member is composed of projections projecting from an inner peripheral surface of the partition (see attachment #2).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Jordan (US 5,779,267 and 5,829,785) discloses an airbag inflator. Parkinson et al. (US 6,527,297) discloses an inflator device. Seeger (US 5,834,679) discloses methods of providing autoignition for an airbag inflator. Adams et al. (US 4,561,675) discloses an auto ignition device. Parker et al. (US 5,613,706) discloses a self-contained inflator pyrotechnic initiator. Bernau et al. (US 5,753,852) discloses a gas generator. Allard et al. (US 5,104,466) discloses a nitrogen gas generator. Adams et al. (US 4,530,516) discloses an aluminum inflator with steel center-tie.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Deanna L. Draper whose telephone number is 703-306-5939.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 9:00 - 6:00.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paul N. Dickson can be reached on 703-308-2089. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9326 for regular communications and 703-872-9327 for After Final communications.

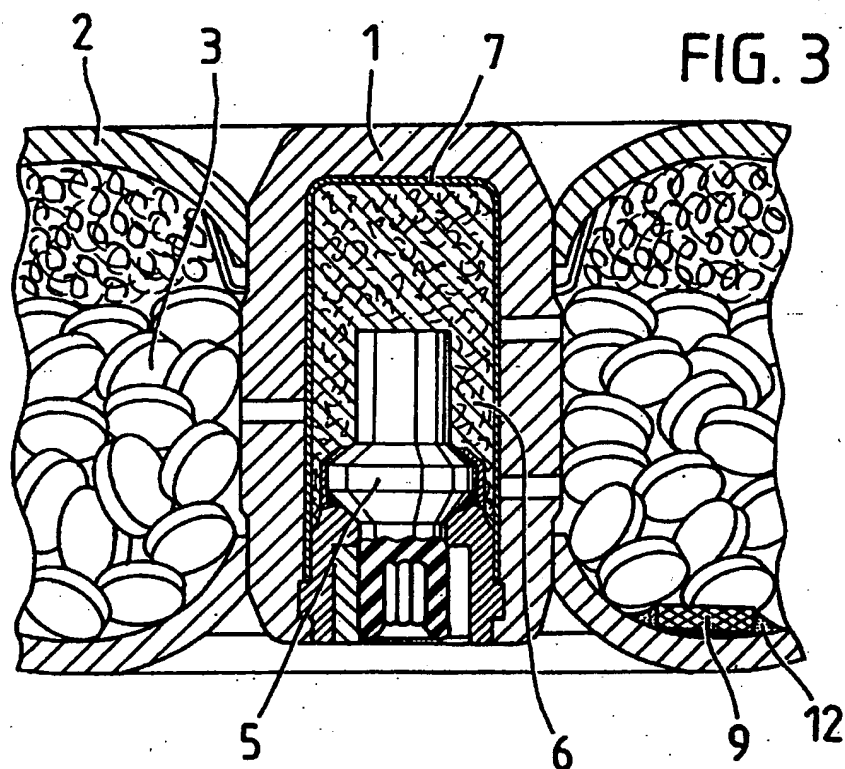
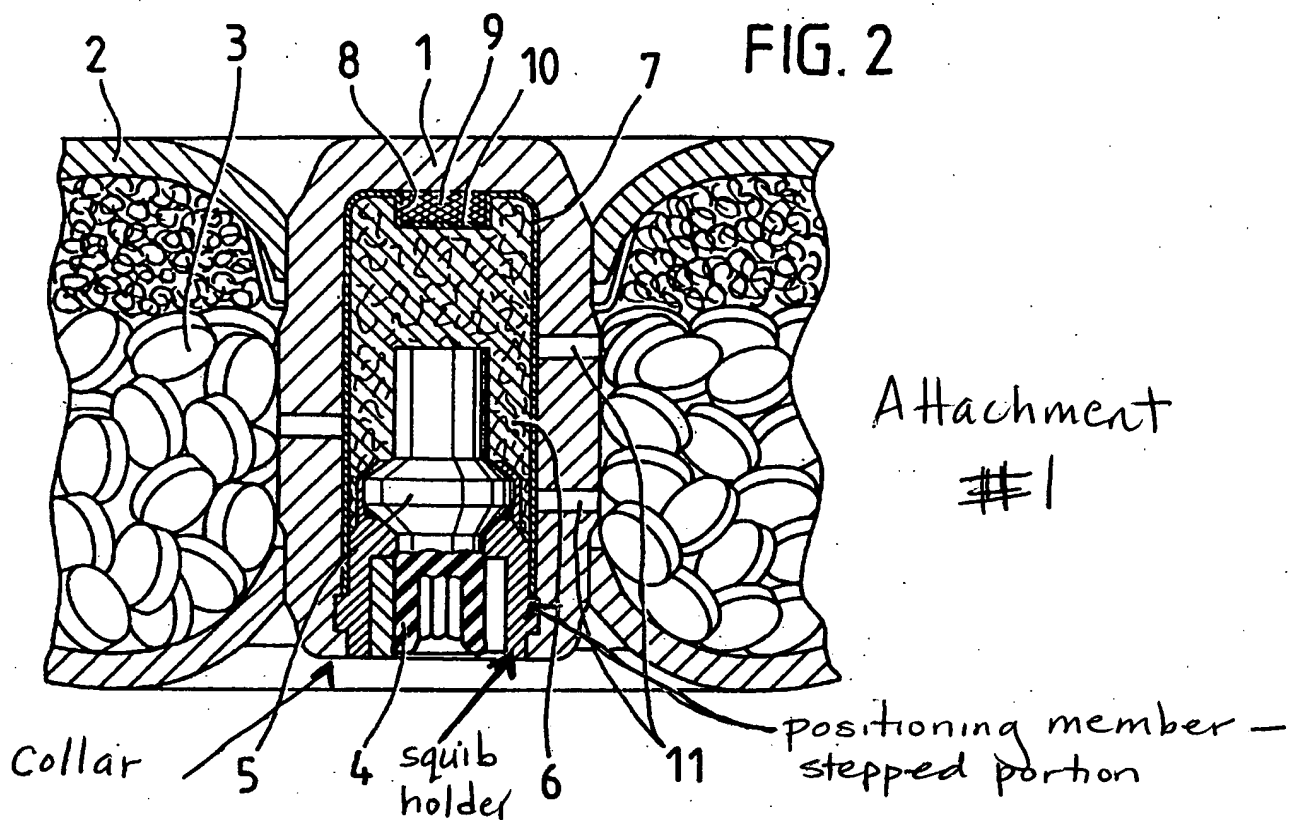
Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1113.

DEANNA L. DRAPER
PATENT EXAMINER

dld

June 30, 2003


LESLEY D. MORRIS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3800



Attachment
2

FIG. 1

